



Toppenish Rally Breaks Old Traditions and New Ground!

October 10–13, 1996 found Cascaders gathered at the Yakima Nation RV Park in Toppenish, WA.

The no-host rally was an experiment. Other GMC clubs hold no-host rallies with some regularity; Cascaders have not had one in years. With no formally scheduled activities planned ahead of time, participants joined together to organize impromptu events and pursue individual or small group interests.

The rally progressed in relaxed fashion. It offered the opportunity for members to "recharge their batteries" and get to know each other better through some lively visiting. Most visiting happened outdoors, between rain showers; some diehard members continued their visits in the rain under raised umbrellas!

Expeditions went forth to local wineries, and fruit stands. Souvenirs of these sorties, in both liquid and solid form, could be seen in the clutches of Cascaders returning to their coaches. Most colorful were the red peppers and ripe tomatoes found at fresh produce stands.

The Ragsdales took the Daryl Wilsons, Cupples and Wades for a tour of a friend's apple orchards near Toppenish. Mary Wilson was thrilled, bouncing through the orchards on an ATV with their hostess; while the others bounced "sedately" behind in the bed of a small pickup driven by their host. They were "surprised" and slightly apprehensive when he backed them up to a tree for easy picking from the truck bed! All pickers came back with fresh, crisp, sweet Red Delicious apples.

The Conestoga wagon tour driver stopped at the RV park to pick up interested members for the

Imposed on cloudy skies, remarkable "stick clouds" place an "x" over the spot where Cascaders gathered.

Ask George Baxter, retired airline pilot, about the meteorological interpretation of this cloud phenomenon!



covered wagon sight-seeing trip through Toppenish to view the city's remarkable collection of commissioned murals. Each mural depicts some part of the area's colorful history. The driver entertained passengers with stories of the murals and the mural painting process.

Saturday night, the group descended on Cattleman's Restaurant. Carol Frydenlund organized the expedition. Reports hinted that, in spite of Carol's good work, the restaurant staff may have been a bit overwhelmed by our numbers.

Special thanks go to Glenn Diers and all volunteers who pitched in to make a successful "different" rally.

Renewals Complete?
Have you sent your data sheet along with your dues for the coming year to Secretary Liz Ovens?

Rally Schedule 1996—97

DATES	LOCATION	SITE	HOSTS
December 6–8	Cannon Beach, OR	Cannon Beach RV Park	Jones, Diers, Ragsdales and Frys
February 21–23	Grand Ronde, OR	Spirit Mountain Casino	Barb and Dolph Eberhart
April 18–20	Portland, OR	Jantzen Beach RV Park	Joanne and Terry Boyd and team

Additional rallies scheduled for 1997; see future issues of the GMC Cascaders News.

OOM PA PA, SCHNITZEL AND WINDSHIELD WIPERS or LEAVENWORTH LEGEND —Story by Jack Cupples

GMC CASCADERS NEWS

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The GMC Cascader News is published six times annually. GMC coach owners interested in membership should contact any officer for information.

Having really enjoyed the Toppenish Rally, the small group of Allens, Cupples, Ragsdales and Daryl Wilsons decided to caravan to Leavenworth, stay overnight Sunday and enjoy the fall foliage of Stevens Pass on the way home Monday. The drive to Leavenworth was spiced with the obligatory visit to a winery where upon debarking from the coaches we thought we stepped back into the prohibition era with Elliot Ness' shotgun blasting the outlawed kegs. The blasts sounded ominous; however, they soon learned these were "cracker shells" blasting off on timers in the vineyard to scare off the feasting birds. The winery staff graciously attempted to quell our anxiety with their finest product. Farther along the way, we stopped at local produce shops amid the bountiful fall harvest of the fields. Life on the road was good.

As the caravan neared the mountains and climbed into the Leavenworth area, misty rain began to cloud the GMC windshields. The group chatted on Channel 14 about where to tie-up for the night and how the low clouds and fog seemed to take away the brilliance of the colors of the foliage. On entering the KOA campground, the slow moving wipers on the Cupples' coach froze in mid swing. Jack, via the radio, advised the rest of the group of the problem. The GMCs found parking alongside each other. Before the Cupples coach's engine had quite revved down to a stop, Denny Allen was in front of the left engine hatch with two fully loaded tool boxes and a mug of coke, ready to attack the offending windshield wiper motor. Life on the road is good when you are a GMC Cascader and have good Samaritans like Denny to help out. The system filter was found to have disintegrated and probably affected the internal valves/diaphragms of the wiper motor. Denny partially disassembled the wiper motor, as far as we dared go in the field; however, it appeared that the only repair would be a replacement unit.

It seemed prudent at this time to have "happy hour" and discuss how the Cupples would cross the pass in the rain and fog without windshield wipers.

As "happy hour" progressed, several suggestions emerged, such as strapping Cathy to the front of the coach hand swishing the wipers en route. Someone volunteered two short ropes each tied to a wiper arm and fed through the side windows and the pilot and copilot alternately pulling the ropes. Having not arrived at an inspired solution to the problem, the group figured they might as well continue this at King Ludvigs in Leavenworth.

There was a table of eight that night that almost blew the doors off King Ludvigs, officially opening October Fest with mighty German song accompanied by the lederhosen-clad accordionist, the buxom Bavarian singer and the colorful

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MINUTES—10/12/96

Toppenish, WA

The meeting was called to order by President Carol Baxter at 9:20 A.M., Saturday, October 12, 1996, at Indian Nation RV Park, Toppenish WA.

Carol thanked the "no-hosts," Glenn and Ruth Diers, for taking care of the arrangements for the rally.

New members, Dorothy and Neil Slater of Renton, WA., were introduced and prospective members, Lorraine and Carl Mudd of Port Angeles, WA., were also introduced.

The President reported that there were various communications and newsletters from other GMC Clubs available to look through after the meeting.

Attendees:

Allen, Denny & Fran	Groth, Ray & Bev
Baxter, George & Carol	Hastie, Ernest & Nellie
Bell, Andy & Paula	Hove, Carl & Helen
Boyd, Terry & Joanne	Jones, Cass & Tim
Bovee, Al & Margaret	Preston, Del & Vi
Blodger, Leona & Knute	Ragsdale, Ken & Becky
Cupples, Jack & Cathy	Slater, Dorothy & Neil
Deirs, Glenn & Ruth	Swanson, Ted & Jane
Estridge, Clarence & Elsie	Scolman, Jim & Sheryl
Fry, Bob & Elaine	Turner, Norm & Betty
Frydenland, Gordon & Carole	Wade, Milt & Carmen
Foote, Bill & Mary Lou	Wilson, Daryl & Mary

Vice President's Report—The President gave the Vice President's report in his absence. A card was sent to Ruth Diers for her recent illness and the membership was requested to notify Terry Morris, Vice President, of the need to send cards and write notes to the members.

Minutes—The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter. Moved by George Baxter (M) and seconded by Glenn Diers (S) and passed (P).

All items for the *GMC Cascader News* should be sent to the Secretary, Liz Ovens, within two to three weeks for forwarding to Pris Hardin, Editor.

Treasurer's Report—Ruth Diers announced that there are 194 paid members at this time and the balance in the treasury is \$3,729.43. A few members have not sent in their renewal form with their money and this is required. Members should contact Liz Ovens, secretary if they need a copy. If the forms are not received, your name could be left off the roster.

Wagonmaster's Report—Carl Hove reported that our next rally is at Cannon Beach, December 6-8, 1996.

Hosts are the Jones, Diers, Ragsdales and Frys. The February rally will be at Spirit Mountain Casino, Grand Ronde, OR, February 21-23, 1997. Hosts are Barb and Dolph Eberhart. The April Rally is open. Tokeland was suggested and rally hosts are needed. The June 1997 rally will be June 13-15 at the Deming Logging Festival. Hosts are Virginia and Laurie Paradis.

Cass Jones reported on plans for the December 1996 rally in Cannon Beach. The City of Cannon Beach has bought the RV park; however, it will remain as it is for at least five years. The hosts have reserved spaces for 35 coaches. The play is new, "A Colonial Christmas." It will cost \$15 per ticket. Notices will be out soon.

Ruth Diers reported that flags and buckles are still available. She has GMC stocking caps available for \$15; Ruth can order caps in any color. The coffee-maker timers previously approved for purchase will be bought for the next Rally.

Carol Frydenland told of plans for dinner this evening at the Cattleman's Restaurant at 6:00 P.M. Volunteers for driving were requested.

Motion to adjourn. MSP—B. Fry and D. Allen.

Adjournment at 9:45 A.M.

*Respectfully submitted
by Elaine Fry.*

CORRESPONDENCE...

•••From Glenn Diers, Wagonmaster for 3 years (1994-96)

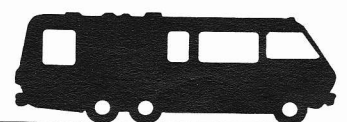
THANKS!!! Thanks to all Cascader volunteers who helped as hosts, co-hosts, greeters, and flunkies, for making the past eighteen rallies successful. Without good volunteers, we couldn't have done it. YOU MADE MY DAY!!!

•••From Earl Becker in Lake Havasu City, AZ

NOTE TO ALL SNOWBIRDS and anyone else in the area on vacation... Y'all Come! Saguaro GMC Club will hold a rally in Lake Havasu, AZ. on Feb. 21-23, 1997. (\$10/night) Interested? Contact Earl before Jan 31 to register: 1-520-764-3610.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

FOR SALE—'75 Glenbrook. Tip-top condition—\$26,500 or best reasonable offer—Ray Dapp 206-838-3112



GMC Cascaders

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suspended genial host. Sudsy pitchers of German beverage, wiener schnitzel, large pork hocks and hot potato salad all complemented the evening; life on the road was good.

Unfortunately, rain greeted the group next morning. Obviously, crossing the pass was not going to be easy. Someone suggested Rain-X on the windshield might work, but neither of the two auto stores in Leavenworth had any left. Undaunted, the caravan started up Stevens Pass toward home with the Cupples coach following Ragsdales. Sighting out to both sides, staying alert to Ragsdale's brake lights ahead, and listening to Ken's radio callout of the signs ahead, the crippled coach progressed up the grade. Jack was prepared to stop often if necessary to clean off the wet glass. Visibility was not that bad and he announced to the group that traveling this way was doable. Passing semi-trucks with their characteristic spray *was* a bit scary. Crossing the summit provided a wet snow mix on the windshield; defrosters seemed to help.

At Monroe the group would split up and so the coaches stopped at a local deli. We warmed up with espresso and a maple bar and said our good-byes. The trip from Monroe to Kent was a nightmare since the rain turned to a torrent, trucks and fast moving traffic crowded the highway, but the Cupples finally reached home safely... life at home was good.

CHAPTER TWO

Rebuilt GMC wiper motors are available from at least two of the normal sources of GMC parts. Shop around as the quoted cost of this unit ranged between \$169 and \$400. A direct replacement of the original system filter is no longer available; however, an AC PF-883 in-line oil filter can be inserted into the return line from the wiper motor to the power-steering pump. It is a good idea to replace this return line. Replacement of the wiper motor, filter and hose is fairly straightforward—just follow the directions in the GMC repair manual.

